

Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

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In

Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

, students come to understand how and why policy analysis is used to assess policy alternatives. To encourage critical and creative thinking on issues ranging from the federal deficit to health care reform to climate change, authors

Michael Kraft

and

Scott Furlong

introduce and fully integrate an evaluative approach to policy. The

Sixth Edition

of

Public Policy

offers a fully revised, concise review of institutions, policy actors, and major theoretical models as well as a discussion of the nature of policy analysis and its practice. Both the exposition and data have been updated to reflect major policy controversies and developments through the end of 2016, including new priorities of the Donald Trump administration.

Michael E. Kraft is professor emeritus of political science and public affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. He is the author of, among other works, *Environmental Policy and Politics*, 7th ed. (2018), and coauthor of *Coming Clean: Information Disclosure and Environmental Performance* (2011), with Mark Stephan and Troy D. Abel. In addition, he is the coeditor of *Environmental Policy: New Directions in the 21st Century*, 10th ed. (2019), with Norman J. Vig; *Toward Sustainable Communities: Transition and Transformations in Environmental Policy*, 2nd ed. (2009), with Daniel A. Mazmanian; and *Business and Environmental Policy: Corporate Interests in the American Political System* (2007) and *The Oxford Handbook of U.S. Environmental Policy* (2013), with Sheldon Kamieniecki. He has long taught courses in environmental policy and politics, American government, Congress, and public policy analysis.

Scott R. Furlong is Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs at SUNY Oswego as of July 2017, after serving ten years as dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and professor of political science and public affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. His areas of expertise are regulatory policy and interest group participation in the executive branch, and he has taught public policy for over twenty years. He is the author or coauthor of numerous book chapters and coauthor of *Rulemaking: How Government Agencies Write Laws and Make Policy*, 5th ed. (2019), with Cornelius M. Kerwin. His articles have appeared in such journals as *Public Administration Review*, *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Administration and Society*, *American Review*

of Public Administration, and Policy Studies Journal.

"Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

by Kraft and Furlong is a fresh and comprehensive text on American public policy. The text is concisely written and the content easily promotes engagement and student interest. Strong organizational structure which readily lends to a precise understanding of the dynamics and nature of public policy, analyses and assessment. The substantive analyses of public policies contained in the book contributes to the richness of the text. Excellent academic work which fuses theory and practice in American public policy." -- Dr. Linda Trautman

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does a nice job of laying out the different competing models of public policy and then goes on and tackles topics in public policy one-by-one using whatever tools work best to make sense of the topic. The writing in this book is better than in most textbooks my students have, and students like to use this book." -- Steven Maloney

"

Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

is a good introductory policy text that balances theory and issues, depth and breadth. I tried a number of other texts before landing on Kraft and Furlong. I wanted a text that balanced theory/process chapters and chapters on specific issues and that could be used by students with very little policy background. What I like best are the balance between theory and issues, and the accessible writing. The size and price are ideal for introductory students as well." -- Bruce Nesmith

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Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

provides the most comprehensive coverage of the field of American public policy, including not just policy analysis, but also in-depth chapters on a variety of policy areas. It is very readable, and the terms are explained quite well." -- Philip Nicholas

"The strength of

Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

is that it is a very well organized book that covers many different aspects of public policy, the policy process and policy analysis. It takes a very rational approach to the policy process, which it might be argued is often very irrational. This is a good introduction which provides a solid foundation. It covers all aspects from policy process to policy analysis. The chapters on the policy areas provide to students both historical insight and an understanding of current challenges in public policy." -- Ellen Rogers

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Public Policy: Politics, Analysis, and Alternatives

is a great intro to public policy book that has a heavy focus on environmental policy and does an excellent job covering market failures and reasons for government intervention. The thematic approach is great for an academic class that stresses objective research into public problems and their possible solutions. There is considerable emphasis on critically thinking about sources and the policy actors involved in the process. This book does a good job of taking some of the controversy out of politics by being very fact based and evidence driven while also encouraging analysis." -- Katrina Taylor

Other Books

Learning Policy, Doing Policy. When it comes to policymaking, public servants have traditionally learned 'on the job', with practical experience and tacit knowledge valued over theory-based learning and academic analysis. Yet increasing numbers of public servants are undertaking policy training through postgraduate qualifications and/or through short courses in policy training. Learning Policy, Doing Policy explores how policy theory is understood by practitioners and how it influences their practice. The book brings together insights from research, teaching and practice on an issue that has so far been understudied. Contributors include Australian and international policy scholars, and current and former practitioners from government agencies. The first part of the book focuses on theorising, teaching and learning about the policymaking process; the second part outlines how current and former practitioners have employed policy process theory in the form of models or frameworks to guide and analyse policymaking in practice; and the final part examines how policy theory insights can assist policy practitioners. In exploring how policy process theory is developed, taught and taken into policymaking practice, Learning Policy, Doing Policy draws on the expertise of academics and practitioners, and also 'pracademics' who often serve as a bridge between the academy and government. It draws on a range of both conceptual and applied examples. Its themes are highly relevant for both individuals and institutions, and reflect trends towards a stronger professional ethos in the Australian Public Service. This book is a timely resource for policy scholars, teaching academics, students and policy practitioners.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ . Kraft, ME & Furlong, SR 2013, Public policy : Politics, analysis and alternatives , 4th edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA. Lasswell, HD 1956, The decision process: Seven categories of functional analysis, University of Maryland Press, ..."